

Message Text

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DISTO

FOLLOWING REPEAT ISLAMABAD 4833 ACTION DEPT INFO NEW DELHI LAHORE
KARACHI DACCA KABUL TEHRAN LONDON PARIS MOSCOW HONG KONG PEKING
MAY 19TH

QUOTE

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 4833

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, PFOR, IN, PK

SUBJ: INITIAL PAK REACTION TO INDIAN NUCLEAR EXPLOSION

REF: NEW DELHI 6595

1. IN COURSE OF EXTENDED COVERAGE MAY 19 OF INDIAN NUCLEAR
EXPLOSION, GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED PAKISTAN TIMES CARRIED
FOREIGN OFFICE SPOKESMAN'S MAY 18 STATEMENT OF "CONCERN."
ANSWERING NEWSMEN'S QUESTIONS, SPOKESMAN SAID, "THIS DOES
NOT COME AS A SURPRISE TO US. WE HAVE BEEN REPEATEDLY
WARNING THE UNITED NATIONS, PARTICULARLY THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS
POWERS, AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY FOR A DECADE THAT
INDIA'S AMBITIOUS NUCLEAR PROGRAME AIMED AT EQUIPPING
ITSELF WITH A NUCLEAR OPTION, WAS BEING UNDERTAKEN TO
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CARRY OUT A NUCLEAR EXPLOSION AND STAKE A CLAIM TO THE STATUS

OF A NUCLEAR WEAPON POWER." HE CLAIMED INDIA HAD
"VIOLATED" THE (1963) NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY AND HAD
RENDERED FUTILE INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO CURB THE NUCLEAR
ARMS RACE.

2. PAK TIMES MANAGING EDITOR, A.T. CHAUDHRI, IN COMMENTARY
MAY 19, CALLED FOR PAKISTAN TO "GAIN SUFFICIENT TECHNOLOGICAL
KNOW-HOW IN THE ATOMIC FIELD TO END THE BLACKMAIL OF ANY
PROBLEM NEIGHBOR WHICH MIGHT THINK THAT THIS COUNTRY CAN
FALL AN EASY PREY TO NUCLEAR THREAT."

3. REPORTEDLY, PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO HELD MEETING OF CONCERNED
OFFICIALS EVENING OF MAY 18 TO REVIEW REPERCUSSIONS OF INDIAN
EXPLOSION, PRIME MINISTER WILL SPEAK ON SUBJECT FROM LAHORE
EVENING MAY 19.
LUPPI UNQUOTE RUSH

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